B1

aggregation of particles, and a nucleic acid, wherein said nucleic acid in said particle is resistant in aqueous solution to degradation with a nuclease.

B2

64. (Amended) The nucleic acid-lipid particle of claim 42, wherein said cationic lipid comprises from an amount greater than 0% to about 20% of the lipid present in said particle.

B3

69. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a nucleic acid-lipid particle and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, said nucleic acid-lipid particle comprising a cationic lipid, a conjugated lipid that inhibits aggregation of particles, and a nucleic acid, wherein said nucleic acid in said particle is resistant in aqueous solution to degradation with a nuclease.

REMARKS

Claims 42-75 are pending in the above-referenced patent application and are currently under examination. Claim 43 has been canceled without prejudice. Claims 42, 64 and 69 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced with the foregoing amendments.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

The Invention

Novel lipid-nucleic acid particles, which are useful for *in vitro* or *in vivo* gene transfer, are described. The particles can be formed using either detergent dialysis methods or methods which utilize organic solvents. Upon removal of a solubilizing component (*i.e.*, detergent or an organic solvent), the lipid-nucleic acid complexes form particles wherein the nucleic acid is serum-stable and is protected from degradation.